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Rita Rose, Acting Town Clerk, swears in Edward Caba as Acting Town Manager at a ceremony at Town Hall Friday. Looking on to congratulate Caba is State Representative Edward Connelly. Story page 3

Caba Asks For More Staffing

by Thomas G. White

If you've called the Town Hall recently and found that after 30 rings still no one has answered, you'll be relieved to know that it's not because no one's home and no one's working. In fact, says Acting Town Manager Edward Caba, it's just the opposite - people in Town Hall are working their tails off. The problem, says Caba, is that the Town Hall is currently undermanned.

An exasperated Caba related his management woes to the Town Council Monday night and received mixed sympathies from its members. The matter emerged for discussion when the council took up debate on new personnel, and step increases for existing employees. Some Councilors, among them Robert Deforge, objected to the pattern of more hires and more raises.

Deforge suggested hiring an outside consulting firm to assess the town's needs and determine exactly how much hiring was actually needed. "It's about time this Council or the Manager got our hiring on the right track," Deforge said.

Caba's response was measured and firm. "We've had consulting done twice for the town; we've spent loads of money on the studies and never implemented them."

According to Caba the situation is too serious to wait analysis from an outside consultant. "We're in serious shape here, Agawam is no longer a farm community, we need the staffing to do the job," said Caba.

There is little doubt that the situation is serious. The acting Town Manager has been busy filling the gaps in manpower, at times even answering phones himself and as a result has been taken away from more important administrative tasks that are expected of him.

The causes of the current staffing crisis appear to be twofold. CETA cutbacks in October have had an immediate effect. Staff who were once paid through the government's Comprehensive Employment Training Act have been let go, or in the process of being phased out. As a result, the town, which came to depend on CETA people filling positions as secretaries, clerks and switchboard operators, is suddenly forced to make up for the loss. But that requires more money, and town Councilors have mixed opinions about spending it.

Councilor Paleologopoulos said: "I hate to vote on employment positions in isolation; I prefer to see the entire picture and have some idea of our priorities first, and then decide what the town can afford." Paleologopoulos told Caba to furnish a "prioritized list of positions you want filled. Then we can act on it."

Council President, Paul Fieldstad, suggested establishing a Committee to investigate hiring at town hall. But he was reminded by his predecessor in that position, Richard Theroux, that such a committee was not within the constitutional power of the Council.

When the Council finally acted on Deforge's proposal to hire an outside consultant, the motion was defeated. Much was said about employment problems at town hall, but little done. The Council agreed to hold an emergency meeting, if the Council president believed it necessary.

But that seems unlikely, for the moment. Much to the acting Town Manager's dismay, Fieldstad said, "I don't think the Town Hall will fall apart within the next few days. It's been around a long time and I'm sure it will survive the current crisis."

Caba was visibly disturbed by the Council's inaction but remained stoic. Caba told the Advertiser, "There's

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"He has the votes.."

Draft Motion For Connelly Rejected

In what was later termed by an observer "as a move that caught the council with their pants down," at-large councilor Stephen Cincotta's proposal to seek an application for town manager from State Representative Edward Connelly was narrowly defeated by an 8-7 vote Monday.

The motion, seconded by councilor Elaine Bonavita, was, according to Cincotta, a move to show Connelly that there was formal interest on the council's part that he actively seek the position.

The hiring of Connelly as manager was first brought forth to the community by former Citizens For Good Government President Anthony Saracino after Peter Caputo resigned in December. Saracino says Connelly has grassroots support in town.

The surprise move to inject Connelly's candidacy on the council floor at such an early date has added spark to the draft Connelly movement according to Cincotta.

While the Representative has not commented on the movements to draft him from the state house to town hall, Cincotta said he feels confident that Connelly not only possesses the required 10 votes to be hired by the council but would take the job if large scale community support came out in his behalf.

Cincotta's motion received an instant objection from councilor John Bartnik who said that it would be improper for the council to show favoritism on Connelly's behalf and that it would also violate the town charter's manager-selection clauses.

Bartnik later in the discussion again raised his objection which was over-ruled by newly elected president Paul Fieldstad. After Bartnik challenged Fieldstad's ruling, the council voted 12-3 to continue the discussion.

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Veteran Councilor Paul Fieldstad, has been selected as the council's new president. Can Fieldstad "hold down the fort" and turn the council in a positive direction? Editorial page 8

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 17,
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Search Committee For Manager To Organize Monday

A five member manager search committee, selected by council president Paul Fieldstad, will meet in a work shop session to organize the direction the committee will take during the process to replace former town manager Peter Caputo.

Fieldstad appointed councilor Robert Deforge to head the committee. Joining Deforge are incumbent councilors Stephen Cincotta and John Bartnik, and newly elected councilors Walter Kerr and Donald Rheault. Fieldstad told the Advertiser/News that his appointments were based on "finding a good cross section of the council." Fieldstad noted that council vice-president William Herd helped advise him on the appointments.

Get Insight

According to Deforge, the committee will meet Monday "to get some insight on how the selection process should run." Deforge served on the committee that selected Caputo two years ago with Frederick Nardi and Fieldstad. He said that from his perspective, "we are all a little wiser and smarter this time around," alluding to the controversial resume problems that eventually led to Caputo's resignation late last year.

Deforge said the committee can take several routes to properly advertise the manager position. He said he would suggest to the committee to hire a firm that can send a list of ten qualified names to the committee or to advertiser in several trade journals.

"I've been told that other communities have hired a firm to come up with the ten best candidates. These firms are very professional but if the committee decides to advertise in journals, that is fine with me."

Bartnik explained that during the process, which many councilors hope will conclude by May 1st, he will be looking for a candidate with strong administrative and labor relation talents. "These are two areas which have been weak in the past," he related.

Kerr said he is still "rolling a few points through my head on what I will be looking for in a candidate." He expressed pleasure and surprise that Fieldstad appointed him to such an important committee.

"It's an honor and a pleasure for me to serve on this committee, which I think will be a good working one," Kerr said.

Major Issue

A major issue confronting the committee is the widespread speculation that either State Representative

Edward Connelly or acting town manager Edward Caba would be the best choice for the job. Neither Connelly nor Caba have indicated that they will seek the position, although a grass roots campaign has sprung for Connelly and it is widely acknowledged that Caba also has support.

The Connelly movement was brought to the council floor at Monday night's meeting by committee member Cincotta, who is an avid Connelly supporter.

Not True Sentiment

Cincotta forwarded a motion stating the the council encourage Connelly to file a resume and application for the position. The motion was defeated 8-7, but Cincotta said that in his estimation the vote did not reflect the true sentiments of the council. Cincotta also stressed that his support for Connelly would not infringe upon his ability to act fairly as a committee member.

Asked for comment on the chance of Connelly getting the manager seat, Cincotta commented: "The position of the council has changed in two years. Before we selected Caputo, we said there was no way a local would be considered. Now that has changed. I certainly hope Mr. Connelly submits an application. I think he has the ten votes right now," he added, referring to the two-thirds vote necessary for the hiring of a manager.

Answered Kerr on the possibility of a local candidate: "If two men had exactly the same qualifications and ability, and one was from outside and one was from town, I would take the man from town. I've said for 30 years that you don't have to go outside the community to fill a position."

Remarked Deforge: "Well, we have to consider what the charter says about the hiring. If a local had the qualifications academically and experience wise, he could be considered but we have to protect ourselves, from a court suit that could crop up later because we didn't meet the requirements of the charter."

Bartnik said that under no circumstances would he consider a local candidate. Fieldstad said that the committee hopefully will set an advertising deadline for the position for the end of March or the manager selection process could extend into the summer.

Deforge said he was happy with the committee's membership and that the business now at hand is to find the best man for the job.

Proper Disposal Of Ashes Urged

The increasing disposal of wood and coal ashes with household rubbish is creating a nuisance and hazard for the rubbish collectors according to John Stone, Agawam's Superintendent of Public Works.

E.P. Hayes, Inc., the rubbish collection contractors, have requested that these ashes be placed on the treebelt for collection in closed plastic bags. When placed in barrels, the ashes create a substantial amount of dust, when dumped into the collection trucks, covering the workers and entering their eyes and respiratory systems.

Residents are reminded that wood ashes contain a large amount of potash which is beneficial to lawns and gardens.

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911 Number Now Available In Agawam

The 911 telephone emergency reporting system has been available to telephone subscribers in the Agawam (786 and 789) exchange since December 1st.

The 911 system enables the caller - just by dialing the three-digit number - to reach quickly a centralized emergency location, which will then alert the appropriate agency, either police, fire or ambulance.

These lines are for emergency use only, and residents should continue to dial the individual police (786-4767), fire (786-2662), or detective bureau (786-1717) numbers for all other calls, leaving the 911 lines open to handle emergencies faster.

There is no charge for a 911 call. Agawam is the 68th community to introduce 911 in New England Telephone's five-state area.

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Masonic Lodge Defends Zoning Amendment

The President of the Ralph L. Cheeseman Masonic Lodge today told the Advertiser/News that if the Planning Board votes not to accept a zoning amendment that would allow the Masons to meet at the Center Library, the fraternal brotherhood will go to the council for relief. The Planning Board is expected to vote on January 17th.

Armand Davieau today said that the fraternal brotherhood firmly believes that the entire community will benefit from the organization taking residence at the old library.

The organization began renting the building last spring on a recommendation by former town manager Peter Caputo. Caputo's recommendation received unanimous support of the town council.

Since that time, Davieau said, the brotherhood has begun renovation of the building. He pointed out that while the Center Library was an ideal location for the Masons to set up headquarters, "we will look elsewhere in Agawam if need be."

"If the town council and planning board do not support us we will then look to another location in Agawam," he remarked. "We are in Agawam to stay. This is a growing community and it should have had a Masonic Temple ten years ago. It has great value to the citizens of town."

Davieau said that he understood objections raised by several town officials over the Masons' future purchasing of the building while the community is still locked in a court battle with the heirs of Minerva Davis. Mrs. Davis built the structure 51 years ago and donated it to the town with the stipulation that it be used solely for a library.

Davieau did say, however, that the Masons intended to establish a permanent library in the building for the benefit of all citizens.

"We would gladly make use of part of the building for a library and open it to the public 24 hours a week at our own cost. I believe that Mrs. Davis' representatives would not object to a reputable group such as the Masons occupying the building," he said.

The Planning Board reviewed the Masons request for the zoning amendment at their January 3rd meeting. Acting town manager Edward Caba and Town Treasurer David Gallano each voiced objection to the proposal at the meeting.

After the meeting, Caba told the Advertiser/News: "There is no question in my mind that a lot of people in town are upset over the arrangement made between the administration and the Masons. There should have never been an option to buy in that agreement in the first place," he said, referring to the fact that Caputo told the Masons they could purchase the building.

Caba also stressed that before the Masons were allowed into the building, the zoning amendment should have been brought before the proper authorities. He added that by allowing the zone amendment to pass, it would open up "a bag of worms for any organization in the community."

The acting manager did, however, commend the Masons for taking care of the library. He said he sympathized with the Masons for pumping money into the library but said that the community has approximately \$70,000 "of its own tied up" in the library.

Davieau mentioned that approximately 400 residents belong to the Agawam Masonic Lodge and that municipal officials should "do everything in their power" to help the Masons in their current dilemma. He said that if the Masons lose the Center Library, it will put a "hardship" on their situation. "Although we do have some alternatives."

Davieau went on to say that the brotherhood is committed to providing services to the people of Agawam once they become settled.

He said that the group is not a club and will not sell liquor or set up a cafeteria on the premises.

"We don't want people to think we are just another group that is trying to make a fast buck by selling alcohol or by having evening meals and things of that nature he said. "We are a responsible group and will continue to be for the betterment of the community."

Planning Board member Harold Ellis, when contacted, said he and other board members are still reviewing the Masons request and will have a decision ready for the January 17th meeting.

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Caba Sworn In As Acting Manager

In a simple ceremony Friday at town hall, Town Clerk Edward Caba was sworn in as acting Town Manager.

Caba replaces Peter Caputo in the town's highest administrative position. Caputo resigned from the manager's position late last year to accept the chief of police position at Nantucket Island. But Nantucket selectmen immediately rescinded their hiring when learning of Caputo's overly publicized resume controversy; a controversy that had plagued Caputo since last July.

Caba, who was appointed as acting manager by a unanimous vote of the council, said today that his number one priority is to solve the personnel shortages now menacing town hall.

"No question the most important thing we have to face is the staffing at town hall. We have to bring the personnel to where we can function properly. The fringes that have been doled out of here lately has left us at a critical point money wise. But I don't want to criticize contracts or get into a contest with the unions."

During the interim, Caba said he would maintain his duties as clerk due to the special election in Precinct One on February 19th and the March 4th presidential primary.

Caba noted that when he served as interim manager prior to the selection of Caputo, he was facing a \$3 tax increase. He said that again, the new budget before his office will reflect a tax increase, although he added that it was far too early to speculate how much that increase would be.

He contended that the \$4 cut in taxes provided by the former manager and the council for this year was unwarranted, and that the 1979 rate should have been maintained.

"The town really had no business decreasing the tax rate with all the union contracts coming up," he noted, adding that the recent 27 percent pay raise to the police department over the next three years was especially high.

"Right now, all our free cash is wiped out. And we were still getting pretty good sums from the state and the revenue sharing was adequate. We could have given residents a \$1.50 or \$2.00 tax decrease for this year and been in good shape," he argued.

Also on hand to congratulate Caba at the Friday ceremonies was State Representative Edward Connelly. He said of Caba's appointment, "I believe the Council did the right thing by appointing a career man at town hall. It is the career men who make the mechanisms of government work and I know that Mr. Caba will do a fine job for the community and I congratulate him."

Replacing Caba as Clerk during the interim will be assistant Town Clerk Rita Rose. Mrs. Rose will serve as Clerk for the Council during all Council sessions.

Commercial Credit Company, SBA Sign Agreement

Commercial Credit Company and the Small Business Administration (SBA) have signed an agreement making Commercial Credit the first non-bank, non-regulated lender authorized to issue SBA guaranteed loans on a nationwide basis. Commercial Credit, a wholly-owned finance and insurance subsidiary of Control Data Corporation, will offer the loans through a new subsidiary, Commercial Credit Financial Corporation (CCFC).

Participating in the signing ceremony were A. Vernon Weaver, administrator of the SBA; William C. Norris, chairman and CEO of Control Data; Paul G. Miller, chairman and CEO of Commercial Credit; and Michael K. Casey, executive director of the White House Conference on Small Business.

The maximum loan amount permitted under the SBA guaranteed loan program is \$500,000, although the average loan extended by current lenders approximates \$100,000. Interest rates vary with the prime, and maturities average about seven years. Commercial Credit economists estimate there are more than four million small businesses eligible to apply for the loans, which can be issued for a number of purposes: to finance new companies; to refinance young, growing companies; to assist in the purchase of equipment and expansion of facilities; and to provide operating capital for established companies.

Commercial Credit, a \$5.5 billion (assets) company based in Baltimore, will offer the SBA loans initially through CCFC offices located in Business Resource Centers planned for a dozen cities this year. Beginning next year, the company then plans to rapidly expand the number of CCFC office to approximately 400.

The first Business Resource Center is scheduled to open in Baltimore this month, with others to follow in Atlanta, Chicago, Charlotte, Cleveland, Dallas, Denver, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, Minneapolis and San Francisco. Each of the centers will offer the SBA guaranteed loans and a wide variety of additional financial, insurance, education, accounting, marketing and management services exclusively for small business.

Kerr To Bring Civil Service Question Before Council

Newly elected Councilor Walter T. Kerr will bring his two year battle to place the chief of police on state civil service before the town Council at the body's January 21st meeting.

Kerr said he will seek Council support on a December 10th ruling in Hampden County Superior Court that said the 1978 town referendum that favored the placing of the chief's position on civil service was legal and binding on the community. Judge William Simons further ruled that the state legislature must enact the referendum.

Matter of Courtesy

Kerr asserted that the judge did not mention the town Council in his ruling, but instead, left the initiative to bring the matter before the legislature to State Representative Edward Connelly or State Senator Alan Sisitsky. Kerr says he is presenting it before the Council as a "matter of courtesy."

At Monday night's session, Kerr handed each Councilor a copy of the Simons ruling, a ruling that was not sent to each Councilor by the court. Kerr said that because of this, he felt it would be fair that the Council had a chance to formally review the decision. Kerr has received a petition from Connelly which he must return to Connelly before the representative will take any action on the judge's decision.

Stay Out Of It

"I won't submit the petition to Mr. Connelly until after the Council vote. But I will submit it either with a vote of the Council or not, but obviously, I would prefer Council support," stated Kerr.

According to Connelly, a municipal official must first file the petition before he will carry out the court order.

Sisitsky has stated that he will not enter the scene until the town Council directs him to file the bill. Kerr said Sisitsky's position is in violation of the Simons ruling.



Councilor Walter Kerr plans to ask his colleagues to support a superior court ruling that the police chief's position be placed on civil service.

Kerr filed suit against the Council and the former manager Peter Caputo in early 1978 after the Council, by a 10-4 vote, elected not to follow the referendum favoring civil service. In that referendum, 690 residents

voted "yes" and 486 voted "no".

Kerr was also incensed over a "non-binding" clause which was contained in the referendum question. He says this kept people from the polls and that it violated the spirit of the referendum's intent. Following the Council's vote, Stanley Chmielewski was appointed chief by Caputo.

"This is a matter of civil service and not personalities," Kerr maintained. "This is following the will of the people. When those responsible put that non-binding clause in the referendum, it deliberately misled the people and that's why I brought it to court."

The Advertiser/News was able to receive comment on the situation from councilor Richard Theroux and council vice-president William Herd.

Declared Theroux: "I will absolutely not support putting a managerial position on civil service. Civil service is a detriment to the community. I have always maintained that the chief of police should not be subject to civil service and that goes back to the days of Ken Grady [former chief] and Romeo Borgatti [acting chief]."

Herd said he does not wish to commit himself at this point, although he stated that the referendum read non-binding, thus influencing his initial vote against civil service.

Voters Acted Accordingly

"What has to be taken into consideration is that correct or incorrect a summary statement on the ballot stated that it was non-binding, and voters acted accordingly. Since it was non-binding fewer than 10 percent of the voters cast ballots, thus I can't feel that the results reflect the populace of the town."

Kerr made it clear that the court ruling included a clause stating that if the court's decision is not carried out, then he can seek relief from the court who will then take further action.

Asked for comment, Chmielewski said: "As of this point, I don't understand the court ruling but I will just wait and see what the proper authorities deem is best for the community."

RS

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Draft Motion continued from page 1

Cincotta told the council: "the town is in need of a manager. We can go nationwide to find one, but we have a capable individual in this town who has the backing of the entire community. He is qualified and has proven so on both the state and local level."

Although he later voted in favor of Cincotta's motion, veteran councilor Francis Colli echoed the sentiments of councilors voting against the proposal that Connelly should submit an application and resume like all other candidates before being considered. "I don't believe he should be nominated on the council floor," emphasized Colli.

Cincotta stressed that his motion was aimed to encourage Connelly and not to hire him at that meeting. But he added: "The way it is set up now, we won't come up with someone before April or May and the town isn't in the best of shape. Connelly would make an excellent town manager and I believe that a few of those who voted against the motion would change their vote for the good of Agawam." Cincotta, ironically, is a member of the manager-search committee.

Council vice-president William Herd, who cast a dissenting vote on the motion, today told the Advertiser/News that he voted in the negative because the motion was "premature" and not because he is against hiring Connelly.

"I just think the motion was premature. It should not have come at this time. Ed Connelly is well respected and known but he, like everyone else, should have to go through the normal channels to be fair to the other candidates. He should not have a directed inside track on the position," Herd explained.

Most councilors polled said they had no problem with Connelly being a candidate, although Bartnik said he would not consider a local candidate under any circumstances.

Fieldstad observed, "I've known Ed Connelly for a long time and consider him a friend of mine and I have no problem with him as a candidate. But I have not seen an application from him and I don't know if there will be one in the future."

Supporting Cincotta's motion were councilors Elaine Bonavita, Francis Colli, Frederick Nardi, Richard Theroux, Donald Laduzenski and Donald Rheault. Councilors Paul Paleologopoulos, Robert Deforge, William Herd, Alfred Serra, Walter Kerr, Alfred Trehey, Fieldstad and Bartnik cast "no" votes.

According to former council president Richard Theroux, the Cincotta plan was proper and in the community's best interests.

Theroux said that while in the past the council has chosen not to look within the town for a manager candidate, Connelly possesses the necessary tools to make him both an effective and successful manager.

"He's our best local talent and I say that because we need someone who knows the temper of the community and knows its players well."

Cincotta noted that he and several councilors already have committed themselves to voting for Connelly if he becomes a candidate, though he has no plans at this time to join Saracino's planned townwide movement.

RS

Town Hall Staffing continued from page 1

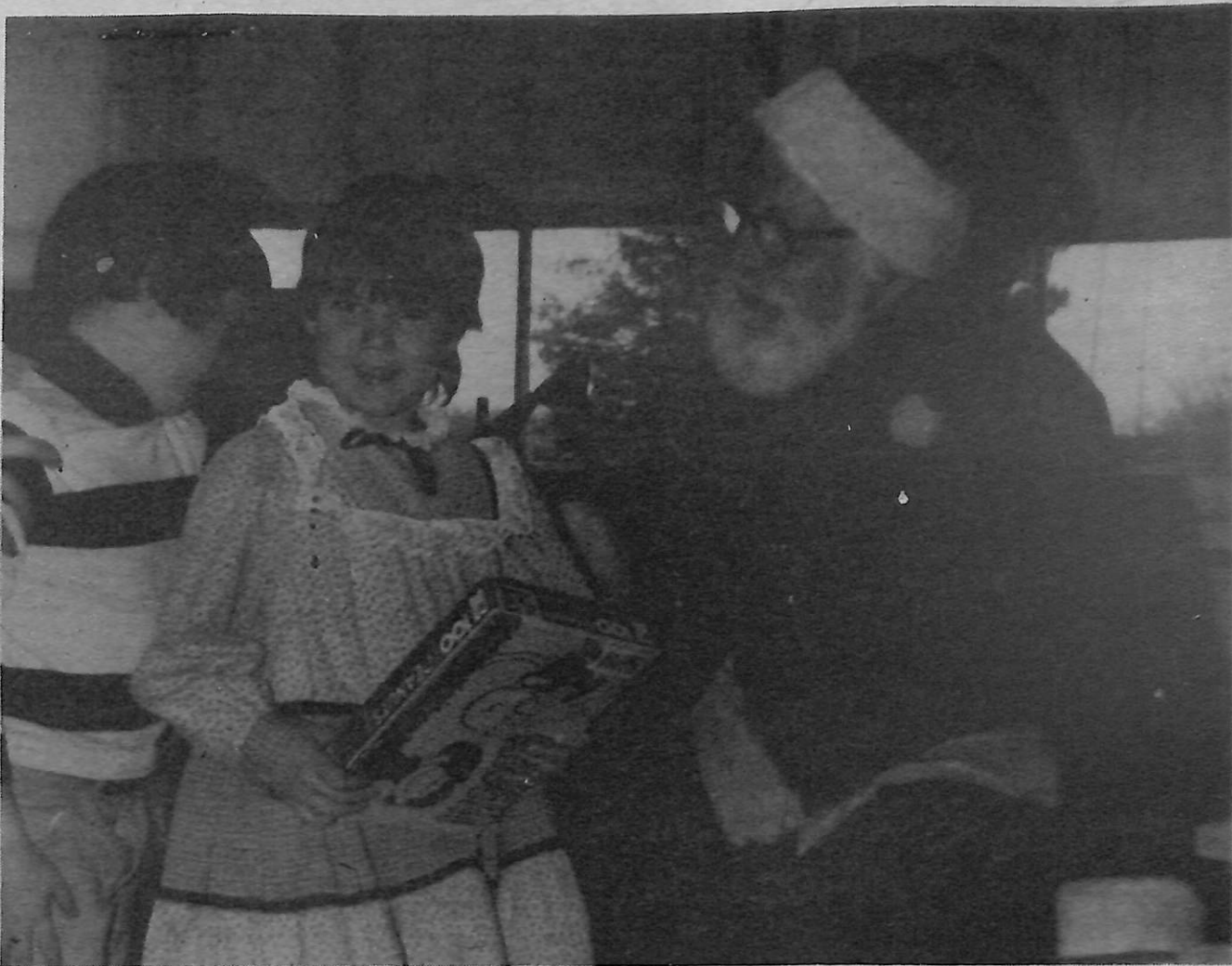
a definite problem at town hall right now, it will take some time, but I'm confident we'll work things out eventually."

Working things out could mean reviving the town's moribund Personnel Board, whose power is established by the Town Charter, but has been gradually usurped over the years by the Town Manager. The absence of a Personnel Board, some say, is the root cause of the town's personnel quagmire.

A personnel board would not face the constitutional handicap that the Council confronts in addressing the town's employment problems. Such a board is intended to provide the town with a long-range, comprehensive approach to town hiring - which is clearly lacking.

When this reporter tried to reach Mr. Caba, to ask whether he would be reviving the Personnel Board, the acting Town Manager could not be reached for comment. Like others at town hall, he was quite understandably, "very busy."

We Still Remember Christmas



Pictured above with Santa Claus is Jill Schuman, a first grade student at Phelps School. Before Christmas, each child at Phelps received a gift - ranging from puzzles to dump trucks, match box cars, stuffed animals and games - from the Santa and the Phelps P.T.O.

Legal Lines

by Atty. Rene Thomas

If two or more persons are buying real estate, what form of ownership is best for them?

Basically there are three forms of concurrent ownership of real estate. The type used frequently by those not related by blood is called a tenancy in common. If two or more persons own property in this manner, there are not survivorship rights. For example, if John and Mary own property as tenants in common and John should die, the property after John's death would now be owned by Mary and John's heirs or if John had made a will he could have willed his interest to someone.

A second form of concurrent ownership of real estate is called joint tenancy. The distinguishing feature of a joint tenancy is automatic survivorship rights. If John and Mary own property as joint tenants and John should die, John's interest automatically passes to Mary and Mary now owns the property one hundred percent. John's heirs would have no claim to his interest upon his death.

If John and Mary are husband and wife, they probably would own the property as tenants by the entirety. This form of ownership is available only to married couples. Like a joint tenancy, there are automatic survivorship rights. Upon the death of one spouse the surviving spouse automatically owns the property outright.

What form of ownership is best? It depends upon whether you want survivorship rights or you want the interest in the property to pass to your heirs.

Army Offers \$2,000 Bonus For Two Year Hitch

The Army is now offering a \$2,000 educational bonus and expanding the number of military jobs and locations available to local enlistees who sign up for a two-year hitch.

The new two-year program, which went into effect Dec. 4, will last for one year, according to Lieutenant Colonel Fredrik Murrill, head of Army recruiting in Connecticut and Western Massachusetts. The Army began its two-year plan as a test last Jan. 2, but enlistments for the largely Europe-service option fell short of the 12,500 openings available nationwide.

The recruiting commander noted that two-year enlistees are guaranteed job training in one of 32 "military occupational specialties," but assignment to Europe is no longer required. Openings are primarily in combat, combat support and communications skills.

The \$2,000 bonus, added to standard veterans' educational benefits, makes local two-year volunteers eligible for educational assistance up to \$7,400 after active duty, Lt. Col. Murrill said. Funds are available under a "Veterans Educational Assistance Program" (VEAP), a matching grant tuition aid plan which replaced the GI Bill in 1977.

Although women are excluded from serving in so-called front-line combat jobs, they may sign up for selected jobs in the two-year program as the result of a series of Army rulings allowing women entry into "untraditional" skills.

Lt. Col. Murrill said that two other new programs, also effective for one year, help three-year enlistees accumulate as much as \$12,100 for education after active duty, and up to \$17,000 (including a cash bonus for certain jobs) during a four-year tour.

To qualify, applicants must be non-prior service, high school diploma graduates, ages 17 to 34, scoring in the top three mental categories on the Army's aptitude tests.

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The Massachusetts Turnpike Authority would like to remind motorists that the latest road conditions are available across the state by calling one of the following numbers:

Springfield Area: (413) 594-6648; Pittsfield Area: (413) 637-2555; Worcester Area: (617) 791-3316; Boston Area: (617) 237-5210.

Chairman John T. Driscoll said, "The authority is always concerned about the safety and comfort of motorists using the turnpike." He added that the recorded message is another service aimed at meeting the needs of turnpike users.

Local Legislators Endorse Kennedy For President

Four local legislators have announced their support and endorsement of the Presidential candidacy of Senator Edward M. Kennedy.

State Senator Alan D. Sisitsky (D-Springfield) and State Representatives John B. Perry (D-Monson); Richard P. Roche (D-Springfield); and Rudy Chmura (D-Springfield) were among a number of Massachusetts legislators to announce their support at a Parker House Press Conference in Boston.

In making the announcement of their support, the legislators cited several key factors which lead to the group's decision to support Senator Kennedy, including the current administration's mismanagement of the economy and its failure to meet the country's grave energy problems. Other deciding factors were Senator Kennedy's strong leadership in the areas of health care, national security, education and the rights of women, minorities, the handicapped and senior citizens.

Responding to last week's announcement, Senator Kennedy stated, "I am pleased and honored to receive the support of these Representatives and Senators. I have worked closely with them and have great respect for the responsible decision-making they have shown regarding the issues concerning their districts and the Commonwealth."

Kennedy also expressed his pleasure at the legislators' pledge of active participation in the Massachusetts campaign organization.



Scout Line For 1980



The 1980 International Scout line of four-wheel drive vehicles includes the Scout Terra pickup, left, the Scout Traveler, and the Scout II. New features on the line include extensive corrosion protection, a new grille design, new colors and trims, and an optional turbocharged diesel engine. The new diesel delivers approximately 20 percent more power with improved throttle response compared to previous Scout diesel models, without sacrificing fuel economy. It is the only turbocharged diesel available for four-wheel drive vehicles in the United States.

The three 1980 Scout models offer a wide selection of comfort, appearance and performance options to tailor them for daily travel, recreation, utility, and trailer towing applications.

Senior Center Menu

January 14: Chicken croquettes, green beans, lemon cobbler

January 15: Pork choplets, spanish rice, turnips, orange

January 16: Pot roast, noodles, mixed vegetables, cake

January 17: Veal patties, mashed potatoes, carrots, jello

January 18: Batterfry fish, potato puffs, spinach, cookies

Next hypertension clinic, January 21

Next nurses' footclinic, January 17

We still have a few seats for "The Mfan of LaMancha" at the Coachlight Theatre. Date, February 7. Price, \$12.25



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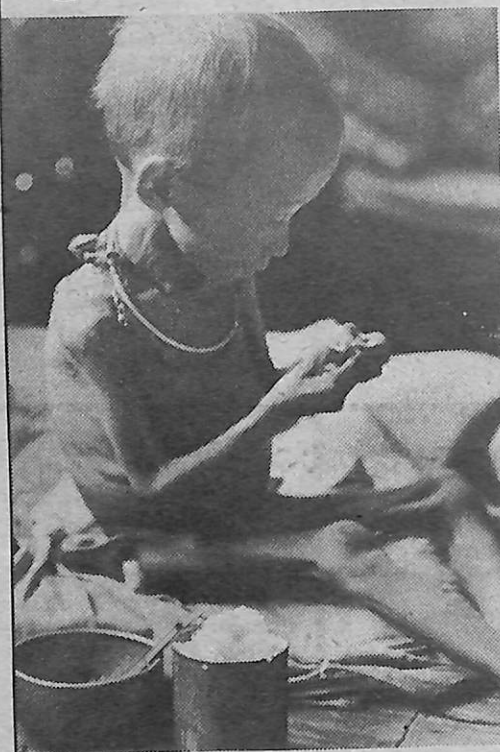
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SCHOOL NEWS

Jesse Fuller Elected Chairman of School Committee



Newly elected School Committee Chairwoman Jesse Fuller, says as chairwoman she will seek more harmony on the board.

by Joanne Brown

On a 5-2 vote, Mrs. Jessie D. Fuller was elected chairman of the Agawam School Committee at their first meeting as a new board held last Tuesday evening.

The two dissenting votes were cast in favor of Mrs. Roberta Doering, the only other candidate nominated for the chairmanship.

Other officers elected for the year 1980 were Walter Balboni as vice chairman and Mrs. Venetta Snyder as secretary. Both ran unopposed.

Priorities For the Year 1980

Questioned about her priorities as the new chairman for 1980, Mrs. Fuller responded with a list of several pertinent issues.

"First of all," she replied, "I want to get moving on establishing minimum competency standards. The state requires us to set these standards in operation in September of this year, so it's most important that we begin planning now."

Mrs. Fuller went on to include formulating a strict policy of no smoking by students on school grounds as a top priority.

She explained, "I don't go along with putting ad-

ministrators who smoke in their offices with the doors closed on the same level as students whose health we should be concerned with."

She stated further that she could see no easy solution to carrying out enforcement of such a policy, but felt administrators should be held accountable for its being done.

Among other priorities Mrs. Fuller, a third-term committee member, would like to concentrate on are implementing plans for the Westover Occupational Resource Center scheduled to begin operations in September of this year. She is also waging an intense campaign to reinstate the dental health program in Agawam schools.

"I don't understand why such a valuable and worthwhile program was ever deleted by the Health Department," she complained. "I feel very strongly that it should be reinstated so our children can benefit from it fully."

Forsees Harmony On The Board

Mrs. Fuller predicted that the present School Committee will work together smoothly in spite of past differences expressed among the six members who have served previously.

"Each of us has his own philosophy," she stated, "but in the long run, we all want the best in education for the Agawam school children."

Mrs. Fuller also expressed anticipation of a harmonious working relationship between the new superintendent, Louis Hebert, and the new School Committee.

"Mr. Hebert will surely have some valuable contributions to make to our school system," she said.

What Is Our School Committee

by Joanne Brown

Editors Note: This is a first in a series of informative articles about our school committee and school department.

The School Committee is the governing board of the Agawam school system. It functions as a duly-elected committee of town government.

The main difference between this committee and other town boards is that it has autonomous and absolute authority within limitations established by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. This authority carries out the educational policies of the state and guides the educational process.

The Agawam Town Charter establishes the composition of the School Committee and governs the election of its seven members who are elected at large for two year terms.

The Agawam School Committee sees its most important duties as making policies and selecting an executive to carry them out, approving a budget which will provide the financial resources to carry out approved programs, and evaluating the educational product in relation to getting the maximum benefits from the resources provided.

A close and harmonious relationship between the committee and the superintendent is necessary for the school system to operate efficiently.

The committee serves as a legislative body, and the administration of the school system is left to the superintendent. This principle, though, does include each making suggestions to the other in regards to their areas.

The superintendent has the privilege of speaking at the school committee meetings, but may not make motions or vote. He attends all meetings of the committee except those whose sole purpose is to discuss his salary.

GUIDANCE BULLETIN BOARD

This column which will appear on a regular basis is being coordinated by and submitted to our newspaper by Paul Cavallo, chairman of the Guidance Department for schools in Agawam.

During the months of January and February, guidance counselors at the high school will distribute to students the 1980-81 syllabus which contains a listing and description of all the course offerings for the coming school year. Counselors will explain to students graduation requirements, old and new course offerings, and specialized programs. The syllabus is taken home by the student so that he can discuss possible course selections with his parents. The Guidance Department stresses that parents should examine the syllabus with their child, and should there be any questions, the department should be consulted.

After a brief period of examination of the syllabus, the student will be programmed by his counselor. The program selection will be sent home and must be signed by the parent(s) for approval. We realize that in many cases the signed program may not be the final one, since many situations could occur from now until September 1st that would result in a change in the program. The administration and the Guidance Department desire to keep the number of changes at a minimum.

Programming for the 9th graders will begin at approximately the same time as the 10th and 11th grades. The counselors at the junior high school will follow the same procedure as outlined above.

Reminder: On January 25th the 2nd marking period closes at the high, junior high and middle schools. Report cards will be distributed during the first week in February by the three schools.

Parents of college bound seniors can begin filling out the F.A.F. The sooner it is filed with C.S.S. in New Jersey, the sooner the form will be processed and sent to your institutions. Remember to check off box number 1 in item number 43 so that a needs analysis will be sent to the Basic Grant Program. There is no charge for sending this report.

Speedy Recovery Wished For Marilyn White

After spending fifteen days at the Mercy Hospital, Miss Marilyn White, a teacher at the Agawam Middle School is home recuperating from a successful back operation.

The recuperation period is three months, but after seeing her the last couple of weeks she looks like she is returning to her "bubbly" self fast.

She's anxious to get back on her feet and return to school (watch out kids!)

How about going to Killington this weekend?!

Our best wishes for a speedy recovery and a healthy 1980.

Her Friends

Adult Ed Offers CPR

Agawam Adult Education will again sponsor American Red Cross Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) courses. Each course will run three consecutive Mondays from 7-10 p.m. at the Agawam Junior High School Cafeteria, Springfield Street. The first course will start January 21.

Registration will be Monday, January 14 from 7-9 p.m. at the Junior High cafeteria. A \$2.00 fee for the course is to be paid when registering. An American Red Cross CPR certificate will be given upon completion of the course.

Anyone that would like to renew their CPR card or would like more information should call Dot Rising at 786-0614.

Calligraphy For Beginners

Learn to write the Chancery Cursive Alphabet, developed in the 15th century for ease and speed in writing. Basic materials and techniques plus historical background are taught followed by a final project through which students learn design and layout procedures.

Registration for this class will be Thursday evening, January 10, at the Agawam Junior High School at 7 p.m. in the Mechanical Drawing Room.

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Two Massachusetts musicians, Robert Marotta from Medford, left, and Dana Mowrer from Agawam, take a rehearsal break to meet 1980 Tournament of Roses Parade Queen Julie Deanne Raatz. The two band members performed in this year's Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena, California as part of McDonald's All-American High School Band. The Band is sponsored every year by McDonald's restaurants to honor two outstanding high school musicians from each state and the District of Columbia. The 102 All-Americans are led by Director Paul Lavallo, right center.

Jr. High Receives NEA Accreditation

At the 94th Annual Meeting of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges a certificate recognizing the initial accreditation of Agawam Junior High School was presented to Paul A. Tatro, Principal by Roland V. Stoodley, Jr., President of the Association and President of New Hampshire Vocational Technical College in Claremont, New Hampshire.

The New England Association of Schools and Colleges is an independent, voluntary, non-governmental organization of educational institutions. The Association is recognized by the United States Commissioner of Education as the sole regional agency to award accreditation to educational institutions in New England.

The Association is dedicated to the establishment of cooperative relations among the colleges and schools of New England, to the development, maintenance and improvement of sound educational standards, and to the promotion of interests common to both colleges and schools.

Institutional members of the New England Association represent public junior high/middle schools and high schools, vocational secondary schools, independent schools, postsecondary technical and career institutions, junior colleges, and four year colleges and universities. Over 1200 educational institutions have met standards of membership and complied with requirements of extensive evaluation and peer group review by an

Association visiting committee.

Accreditation by the New England Association followed a year of careful in-depth self-study by the school staff led by Miss Madeline Hayes. The self-evaluation report developed by the professional staff of the school was submitted to a team of educators appointed by the New England Association whose assignment was to take a close and unbiased look at the institution and develop a written report identifying strengths of the school along with a series of recommendations to enhance the quality of education for the students enrolled.

The Association believes that in achieving accreditation the school provides tangible evidence its programs, procedures, and facilities have undergone careful scrutiny of qualified professional educators, and have been deemed to be of quality warranting recognition.

About the accreditation, Tatro stated: "This initial accreditation of five years will provide the staff with guidelines for further implementing important improvements in the quality of education at the Agawam Junior High School. Committees have been developed to study the recommendations as submitted by the evaluation team and it is expected that any necessary adjustments will be taken care of within the time parameters recommended by the association."



Roland V. Stoodley, Jr., President of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges presents accreditation certificate to Agawam Jr. High principal Paul A. Tatro, right.

Agawam Lunch Menu January 14-18

Monday: Vegetable beef soup, grilled cheese sandwich, buttered green beans, chilled fruit cup, milk.
Tuesday: No School - Martin Luther King Day
Wednesday: Hamburg on roll, mustard or ketchup, steamed buttered rice, diced carrots, sweet potato cake w/peanut butter icing, milk.
Thursday: Sliced turkey in gravy w/whipped potatoes, buttered niblet corn, whole wheat bread and butter, jello w/topping, milk.
Friday: Meat ball grinder w/tomato sauce, oven french fries w/ketchup, buttered green beans, peanut butter cookies, milk.

January 21-25

Monday: Apple juice, pizza w/cheese topping, tossed garden salad w/shredded carrots, french dressing, pineapple tidbits in syrup, milk.
Tuesday: Steamed frankfort in roll, oven baked beans, buttered broccoli, apple sauce cake w/icing, milk.
Wednesday: Spaghetti w/meat sauce, buttered italian bread, creamy cole slaw, fruited jello w/topping, milk.
Thursday: Tomato soup, ham and cheese sandwich in roll w/lettuce, mustard or mayonaise, oven french fries, ketchup, chocolate cake w/vanilla icing, milk.
Friday: Orange juice, filet of haddock sandwich w/tartar sauce or ketchup, buttered niblet corn, ice cream, milk.

Southwick Lunch Menu January 14-18

Monday: No School
Tuesday: Martin Luther King Day - No School
Wednesday: Ravioli w/meat sauce, shredded mozzarella cheese, buttered green beans, bread and butter, chilled fruit, milk.
Thursday: Sliced turkey w/gravy, whipped potatoes, buttered peas, hot rolls and butter, oatmeal cookies, milk.
Friday: Tomato rice soup, saltines, cold cut sandwich w/lettuce, peach shortcake w/topping, milk.

High school students will be offered Type A combo meals each day. All menus subject to change.

Agawam Music Dept. January Events

Sat. Jan. 12 - All-Western Mass. pre-rehearsal, U.Mass. (all day 9-4) Chorus members: Todd Rovelli, Frank Aucella, Sue DeMatos. Band members: Dana Mowrer, Carol Boucher, Andy Lester, Donna Toon and Charles Withee.

Sat. Jan. 19 - Western Mass. rehearsal (all day). Concert at U.Mass at 8 p.m.

Wed. Jan 23 - Band and Color Guard Award Supper - high school cafeteria 6:30 p.m.

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EDITORIAL

Fieldstad Good Choice For Council President

by Ric Sardella
Publisher

The Council's recent selection of veteran Councilor Paul Fieldstad to the Council presidency is an action that gives us hope for the future of the Council.

Fieldstad has served the council since its inception, and has a solid background in municipal affairs. He is known as an open and candid political figure. His track record proves that he makes a stand and sticks by his guns, and for a Council president, that is important.

What is also important is that Fieldstad is well aware that our present form of government could soon be hanging by its threads if this next Council does not provide stability at town hall.

The resignations of James Westman and Peter Caputo, each coming under stormy and bitter circumstances, leaves much anxiety in Agawam residents who are quickly tiring of the nonsense that often plagues municipal affairs.

In replacing Richard Theroux as president, Fieldstad has aroused the interest of some townsfolk who maintained that Theroux has created a poor working atmosphere on the Council. In fairness to Theroux, that's not entirely true since he is just one actor in the political melting pot that is Agawam.

The election of Fieldstad therefore, will give the Council a new start and direction and we all realize with the unfolding of the new decade and the problems it brings, how crucial that is.

Obviously, Fieldstad's most prominent concern is the selection of a replacement for Caputo. It is widely acknowledged that unless the next manager pans out, this Council will bear the brunt of the scrutiny.

The finding of the right man is critical, and Fieldstad, more than anyone else on the Council, realizes that. And as Council president, the responsibility for a smooth selection-process rests on his shoulders as he is now the leader of the 15 man body.

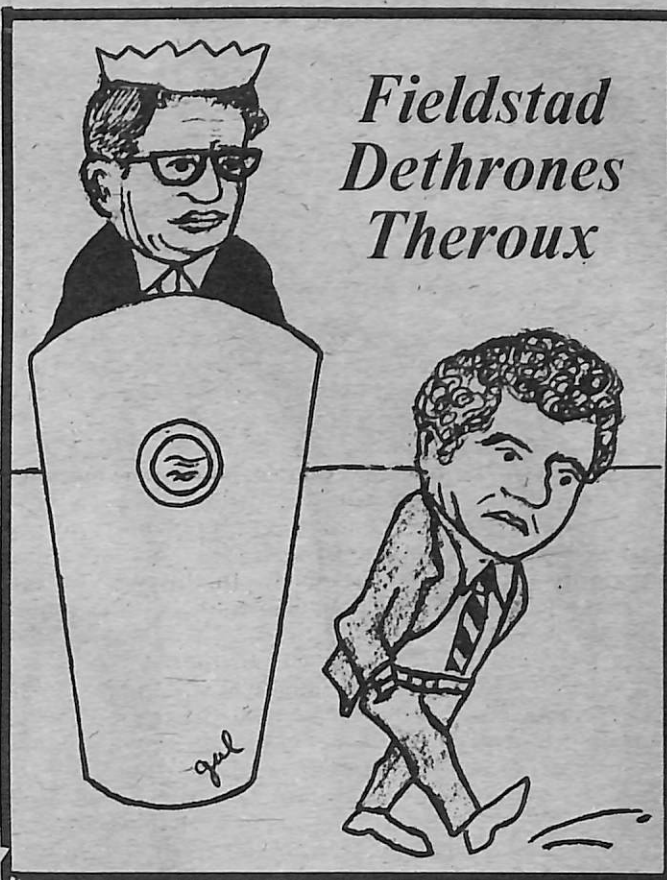
A second problem for Fieldstad to address, which he too readily admits, is that currently, the image of Agawam is quite poor and it is affecting not only the effectiveness of town government, but the town's business community.

And the fallout of this being the hinderance of our ability to entice small business and light industry into our community...like Jacob Marley, our sins bind us to a ball and chain.

He says he is committed to keeping divisiveness out of town politics...the climate in town, however, probably won't allow for that.

But, with his leadership ability, Fieldstad can promote a sense of fair play on the Council which will hopefully serve to create a more workable atmosphere for its members - hopefully eliminating the all too familiar grandstanding.

Thirdly, Fieldstad is setting the Council on a most ambitious course to where the Council itself is the chief policy initiator, and not the manager. This is a welcome goal. It is highly improbable that the Council, using previously set precedent as a prime example, will ever totally take command of the operation of town hall. That would not be in the best interests of the community



since the manager is charged with that task.

But what Fieldstad could instill into the Council is that they need to do their homework and study the issues before forwarding premature and emotional conjecture to the media. The new president says he will set the example. We can only hope that the Council follows suit.

Fourth, Fieldstad has pledged to attempt the formation of a chamber of commerce in Agawam, which we view as a splendid idea.

In surrounding communities, the chamber of commerce vanguards the enhancement of the local merchants - merchants backbone the local economy. The chamber becomes the public relations arm of the business community and it leads to increased business for all...and business spells good for all community residents.

As chairman of the Airport Acquisition Committee, Fieldstad already began the process of establishing a chamber late last year. Realizing the political climate of the community, he chose to take a position of prudence. That is wise, for the moment.

In short, the man has served the community well in the past. And like us all who are involved in the political spectrum of this community, has build in biases and opinions about the way the town should be run. As the man with the gavel, he must forgo that.

Fieldstad has promised honesty and openness during his tenure, and he merits the support of the community and the Council.

From the Editor's Desk

by Pat Guevin

Councilor Stephen Cincotta is to be commended for the motion he made at last Monday's Council meeting to begin negotiations between the town council and State Rep. Edward Connelly for the town manager's position. This is a very important first step in generating an all out "draft Connelly" movement in town.

Though it was defeated by an 8-7 vote, Cincotta's motion planted the seeds of a "Connelly for Manager" push in the minds of the citizenry. Positive response from the public will, we hope, also encourage Mr. Connelly to apply for the position.

The consensus of the Councilors we have spoken with on this matter is that the vote really was not indicative of the pro-Connelly sentiment of some councilors. Councilor Cincotta has said that he firmly believes that Mr. Connelly presently has 10 positive votes from the council.

As Cincotta pointed out so clearly at Monday night's session, who could be more professionally qualified for the position than Agawam's own State Rep.? We concur wholeheartedly. Mr. Connelly is probably the one man who could act as a cohesive force between the town council and the town administration. We believe that he would rule fairly and firmly and that his professional conduct as Town Manager would be beyond reproach.

We at the Advertiser/News urge the citizens of Agawam to take a long, hard look at what we have had in the past, and the makeup of the present town council. We think you will realize that our town again has all the ingredients for keeping us in the headlines - and we all know what bad press can do to a town's reputation. We cannot afford to take another chance with someone from "the outside". Aside from that, with Mr. Connelly, we need not look to the outside.

If you feel as we do, that Ed Connelly would make a good town manager, please call or write him and urge him to make his bid for the position - for all our sakes.

**Beginning January 17th, the
Agawam Advertiser/News will
increase its newsstand price
to 25¢.**

we wish to continue its use as such.

One of our teachings in Masonry is that we love and support the arts and sciences, and this we have always done and hope to continue to do in the future.

Sincerely,

Armand E. Davieau
President, Ralph L. Cheeseman
Masonic Building Association

To The Editor:

Speaking as a private citizen rather than as a member of the Board of Health, I wish to thank you for the factual articles written by Ms. Brown during our recently passed (we hope) lice crisis. I am sorry she was unable to attend our December 13th meeting when the full board and Dr. Doering sat for an hour and a half to answer questions, explain control programs, offer information, etc. Not a single person from the press, the School Committee or the concerned parents attended the meeting.

I have appreciated the fuller coverage of Agawam events found in your paper. If I have not agreed with a number of your editorial opinions, at least you have clearly indicated that they were editorial comments as opposed to factual articles.

Sincerely,
Jane E. Nunn

To The Editor:

Just a quick note to tell you how much we enjoy reading the Agawam Advertiser/News. We look forward to receiving it each week as we are former residents of Agawam (from 1959 to January, 1969). We became interested in reading it when visiting our daughter and her family, (the Algot Olsons).

Just thought you may be interested in the enclosed clipping to show Agawam is not alone in its problems.

Sincerely,
Edith and Ray Blakesley
Tampa, Fla.

Editors Note: The clipping was from a newspaper in Tampa. The article was about a breakout of lice cases in a particular school district.



LETTERS

TO THE EDITOR

To The Editor:

Almost everyday when we pick up the newspaper there is something in it about Agawam, and usually it is not very complimentary. Having lived in Feeding Hills for several years, we have heard and experienced some unpleasant things in regards to certain of our leaders and developers, etc., who seem only to care about their own financial gain and not the good of the people.

There is something however, about this town that should not be overlooked, and that is most of the people who live here. Organizations like the Agawam Clearing House, a group of dedicated and caring people could never do what they do without the help from the people of this town.

This year our family was the recipient of their generosity. Not only did we receive a complete turkey dinner at Thanksgiving, but again at Christmas, along with presents for each child in our family. It was overwhelming and we can never thank everyone involved enough.

People of Agawam, take heart! We live in a town where someone does care, and since a town is its citizens, then this has to be a great place to live.

Yes Virginia, there is a Santa Claus, and in Agawam, the Clearing House is his first stop.

May God bless everyone who helped make our holidays a little brighter.

A Grateful Family

To All The Citizens Of Agawam:

Because of what seems to be a "slanted" news report of the January 3rd Planning Board meeting at the town hall, I feel compelled to inform the readers of the Agawam Advertiser of some of the omissions and additions in and to the January 4th issue of the Daily News.

The use of the word "club" in the ordinance was challenged by Attorney Ken Lenz, who urged instead, that the proper phrase should be "non-profit and charitable corporation," which would effectively bar so called "clubs" from operating in residential areas.

Announced at this meeting but not mentioned in the January 4th Daily News report of the meeting was the offer of the Masonic organization to operate at no charge to the town of Agawam, a branch library - 24 hours a week. (Elm Lodge of Masons use the building approximately four hours a week.)

So, in fact, the intent of the Davis family would in a sense still be adhered to, and all the citizens of Agawam could have use of the building which would be staffed by volunteer members, suitably trained, to efficiently serve the community FREE.

Not mentioned whatsoever at this meeting but reported in the Daily News, was that the Masons would be reimbursed for the rent that they have paid to the town.

For the uninformed in the town of Agawam, at the inside entrance to the building, is a plaque donated by Mrs. Minerva Davis, which reads:

*This Building is Given
In Memory Of
Charles Palmer Davis
1859-1921*

This plaque we cherish, and as long as we occupy the building, we will honor and hold in esteem the Davis family for having provided this beautiful and practical library to the town of Agawam, and for which reason

VIEWPOINT

Guest Editorial

Town Council Needs To Be More Involved

by Paul Fieldstad
Town Council President

Note: This is the first in a series of guest editorials that will appear weekly in the Advertiser/News

First, I believe it is important to stress that during my tenure as Council president, there will be more emphasis placed on the Council rather than on the Town Manager. I want this form of government to be known as a "Council/Manager" government, and not a "Manager/Council" governing body. The problem we had with the first two town managers is the fault of the Council and not of the administration.

The Council has the responsibility to set policy and give the town a positive direction. When the new manager is hired, it would be most beneficial for him to know what the Council as a whole feels is important instead of just banking on a majority supporting a particular issue.

Hopefully, when we speak about policy, we will be speaking about reorganization of town hall. A streamlining of its departments and more efficiency have to be gained. For example, perhaps central purchasing or motor pooling would help cut corners. The Council and the manager must sit down and decide "how do we get the maximum amount of efficiency out of municipal government here?"

As Council President I do not feel it is my job to take sides, but instead to act as a moderator. If we are at odds over an issue, let's keep the personalities out of the debate and focus on the problem - then go about solving it. There has been far too much rhetoric in the past. If I can keep personality divisiveness out of the Council as much as possible, I've accomplished my job and the people in town deserve that.

When dealing with appointments, I have delivered to each councilor a list of committees of the Council. I will give them a couple of days to look at each committee then I will call each councilor and ask what committee he/she wishes to serve on that will best serve the interests of the community. At the same time, it is impor-

tant that the councilor feels comfortable serving on that committee.

Also, for the first time, the council-vice president will be involved in the selection process. I have discussed this with William Herd and we will soon sit down and talk through each and every appointment.

It is most important that this be a hard working Council, and I will try to set the example. During the meetings I would like to hold discussion in the committee-as-a-whole to give each councilor the opportunity to say what is on his/her mind. Then we will come up with a majority vote and set the policy. In this way we can again give the manager the policy and the direction of the town at the same time be the town's public relations arm, which is mainly a Council function.

The Council must raise the public's image of it. An image which has been very poor in the past. This has hurt our effectiveness. By acting responsibly during the meetings, we can improve our image.

Looking ahead to what confronts this Council includes some serious decisions on our growth policy. Personally, I maintain that Agawam should limit its growth to its ability to provide utilities and services.

Also, I promise to do all I can to start a chamber of commerce in Agawam. We have to act more decisively to bring small industry and small businesses into town for the future stabilization of our tax base. And this has to be for the good of the townspeople and not certain individuals. The business community, elected officials and the administration have to join together for positive action. Maybe the key is the chamber of commerce. The initiation certainly has not come from elected officials or the administration.

In short, I will make mistakes as Council president. I've never claimed to be a polished politician, so my mistakes will be honest ones. All I ask of residents is to be patient and give me time to get accustomed to the chair.

From The Third

by
Rep. Edward Connelly



Although the House adopted an order requesting a review of the controversial legislative pay raise on the opening day of the 1980 legislative session, the pay raise repeal fight in the legislature is far from over.

The Speaker, who allowed the order to be heard and agreed to a vote in the House last Wednesday and who is apparently in favor of keeping the pay raise intact, is relying on the Governor's recent action appointing members to the advisory board on legislative compensation to resolve the controversy.

When the advisory board was created, it was charged with the responsibility for intelligent job evaluation and recommendation of legislative salary scale. Their proposal to be voted on by the legislature, according to constitutional requirement, not for the sitting session but for its successor. And therein lies the rub.

It is unfortunate the leadership does not desire to face the repeal question early on in the session. If the advisory board reports in late February and tries by its report to minimize the controversy of a sitting legislature increasing its own salary - then it is likely an outraged constituency throughout the Commonwealth will succeed in putting the repeal question on the ballot in the November 1980 elections.

Editors Note: Mr. Connelly's column is a regular feature of the Advertiser/News

Today In Education

by
Dr. William H. Hebert
Executive Director
Massachusetts Teachers Association
Education In The 80's

What can we look forward to as we come to the end of this turbulent decade and turn our attention to the next 10 years?

Almost anything is possible, but given a certain amount of stability and an absence of worldwide conflict, perhaps we can speculate about what we may expect in our schools in the near future.

Certainly changes in family life will continue to have a major impact. More and more children come from homes with a single parent, and/or a mother who works outside the home. Children appear to be receiving less guidance and if present trends continue, this will be even more widespread in the coming decade and will place an additional strain on our educational institutions and teachers.

Another problem with which we can expect to grapple is that of changing attitudes of parents. Polls indicate that parents are more permissive and perhaps will continue that way. They are less willing to make sacrifices for their children and more reluctant to push their children academically. With more mothers working outside the home and with parents revising their traditional roles, enormous changes will take place in the behavior of our teachers, our children, and in the kind of schools children attend.

Statistics released recently by the United States Department of Labor indicate that by 1990 the labor force will expand 15 percent. This could mean much more unemployment. Further, the number of people with college degrees is increasing more rapidly than the kinds of jobs these individuals want. These factors impose a great strain on the planners as they attempt to come up with imaginative programs suited to our changing needs.

Another matter we may have to consider is a possible baby boom. Despite the drop in the birthrate, the number of women of childbearing age will climb from 20 million to 34 million by 1985. This could cause serious problems in enrollment and in the number of teachers available if women decide to have the same size families they are having today.

Inflation and taxation are forever threatening and it looks as though they will be with us for a long time. Prices could easily double in the next decade, putting college tuition out of sight for many people who once thought they would attend college.

The biggest single expenditure (170 billion dollars) in

Olympics Mirror World Politics

by Thomas G. White

Editors Note: Tom White is a graduate of the University of Notre Dame and has done post-graduate work at the Harvard School of Government and the London School of Economics. His column will appear weekly in the Advertiser/News.

Who are we kidding when we say the olympics aren't political? They're as political as the SALT II negotiations. They're wars without weapons and, consciously or subconsciously, citizens of every nation recognize it.

When President Carter recently threatened to pull the United States out of the 1980 olympics in Moscow, his words sent shock waves through the sports world. Although I sympathize with athletes who have spent four years in disciplined pursuit of the gold and now see their hopes held hostage by the precarious world of international relations, I hardly think their words of demur should be taken seriously.

The olympics have always been proxy wars, especially during the Cold War; a catharsis for international tensions. Isn't it interesting that the Soviet Union's rise to prominence in recent olympiads parallels its growing power in the world. Are they entirely unrelated?

The olympics are a microcosm of international relations. In 1936, Germany tried to use the Munich olympics as a forum for the display of Arian power. The world knew this; hence the drama of Jesse Owens' victories. And yet, the world attended.

While the world bestowed legitimacy on Hitler's regime, thousands of jews were being rounded up for the gas chambers at Auschwitz. The world community decided not to use the olympics as a political tool and as a result, indirectly sanctioned the imperialist and genocidal government of Hitler. The world decided, in short, that it was business as usual and that the olympics were good healthy fun.

To his credit, Jimmy Carter has decided the opposite. It is no longer business as usual. The United States will not be a party to the Soviet Union's continued grasp for power and will not continue to behave as though events in Cuba, Angola and Afghanistan were unrelated to athletics and the arts. All are linked and American policy finally reflects it.

Of course this won't make NBC happy, nor the millions of Americans who enjoy the quadrennial olympic spectacle. I'm one of these fans and can assure you that even a pennant in Boston would not compensate me for the loss of the 1980 olympics this summer.

But a healthier world climate would. If there is no other way to signal to the Soviet Union our determination to oppose their ruthless forays into neighboring lands, then let's do it with the olympics.

For God's sake, every action between nations - whether it be ballet or building rockets - is invested with political content. If the olympics weren't political in 1972, then why did we have the Israeli tragedy? If the olympics are just fun and sports, then why is there such squabbling over credentials between China and Taiwan and such rancor over the seating of South Africa and Rhodesia?

The 1980 olympics are more important to the Soviet Union than to the United States. The competition will represent international relations on Soviet terms. It is also expected to be a great event for showcasing that marvelous Soviet Society. Visitors to Moscow will be treated to a carefully screened view of Soviet life which will no doubt fuel Soviet self-confidence and pride. And the whole world will be capitulating to this well edited show.

Well, I hope not.

Some day, perhaps, the world of sports will be sufficiently insulated from the shock waves of politics. When that day comes, I will be the first to applaud. But I don't expect to see it soon. In the meantime, let's start riding those shock waves toward our own shores.

last year's federal budget went not for defense or education, but for Americans who are retired, ill or poor. This demand could become larger and further cut into other needs such as education.

As for post-secondary education, prospects for the 80's look less cheerful. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics foresees a surplus of nearly 3 million college graduates by 1985 and another study forecasts by 1990 a surplus of 60,000 people with doctoral degrees in the humanities.

On another front, education of handicapped and emotionally disturbed children now required by law will force schools to initiate long overdue practices to accommodate more of these students. This should require additional teachers, more flexible programs, and more individualized instruction.

New problems will require the introduction of new basics-knowledge that will help the next generation restore the equilibrium between humans and their exploited environment and rapidly diminishing traditional sources of energy.

Even though these predictions are depressing, we have the opportunity in the next decade to make education more personalized for all children. We can learn to meet the needs of a steadily aging population and we can strengthen the concepts of genuine equality for all people, regardless of sex, color or nationality.

As Senator Kennedy has said, "The way we resolve the critical issues of today will determine not only the quality of education in the coming decade, but the quality of American life for generations to come."

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SOCIAL

Agawam Library Receives Cookbook For The Blind

The Agawam Public Library has received a gift of two copies of a new cookbook for the blind, *Easy and Elegant* written by Nancy F. Jennison and Cheryl Menard and donated by the Agawam Lions' Club. At a future date the Lions will also donate brailled copies of this book to the library.

This new cookbook presented by the Eclectical Service League is a collection of recipes for all cooks that includes a special section "Celebrities and Restaurants of Distinction." It is a first in that it is the only cookbook of its kind available in both braille and cassette nationally.

In addition, Richard Doyle, a native, celebrated artist and innovator of twig painting, designed the cover and created a word - painting concerning the blind for the book.

The profits from the sale of the cookbook will finance future projects for the blind and handicapped in this area. For more information contact Easy and Elegant, P.O. Box 385, Feeding Hills, Mass. 01030, or Perkins School for the Blind, 175 North Beacon St., Watertown, Mass. 02172.



The Agawam Lions Club donated two copies of Nancy Jennison's "Easy and Elegant" to the Agawam Public Library. Pictured above left to right are James Loomis, author, Nancy Jennison, Donna Campbell and Bruce MacDonald.

Dance Slated For Parents Without Partners

Election of new officers, workshops and a dance will highlight the weekend of January 19th for Parents Without Partners TriState Regional Council. The events will be held at the Sheraton Tobacco Valley Inn in Windsor, Connecticut.

The weekend will begin with the quarterly meeting and election of officers followed by workshops about conducting board meetings, treasurer's job and special functions. A special workshop will be conducted by Mrs. Marguerite Carson of the Westfield Child Study Center. Parent and child relationships will be the topic.

A special workshop on Sunday will be conducted by Mike Smith of the Springfield Chapter of PWP and his topic will be on coping with the responsibilities of home and job.

The Saturday evening dinner at 7 p.m. will be topped by a dance at 9. Jay Contrino of Agawam will lead his very popular band for the dancing and entertainment.

Reservations may be made through the local PWP chapters and the dance may be attended with reservations.

The TriState Regional Council guides the chapter leaders in their endeavor to carry out the programs of Parents Without Partners. PWP is an organization dedicated solely to single parents and their families.

National Secretaries Plans Meeting

Springfield Chapter, The National Secretaries Association (International) will hold its first meeting of 1980 on Wednesday, January 16 at the Colosseum Banquet House in West Springfield. Following a new format, cocktail hour will begin at 5:30 p.m. with the regular business meeting being called to order by President Laura S. Coppola at 6:30 p.m. Dinner will be served at 7:30 p.m.

Guest speaker for the evening will be Professor R. Joseph Racine of Western New England College, Springfield, whose topic will be "Present Day China." Professor Racine has recently returned from a one-month fact-finding trip to China where he visited several of the principal cities of China, including the Great Wall and Inner Mongolia. During this trip, Racine received praise for being heroic when he was acupuncture to relieve the pain of a knee injury received several years ago. Professor Racine has been on fact-finding trips to Vietnam, the Middle East, Rhodesia, and South Africa and twice in Soviet Russia. With the completion of his China trip, Racine has now covered every continent and principal country in the world. He is a graduate of Assumption College and completed his advanced graduate studies at Harvard University, Boston University, Oxford University in England, and LaSorbonne-University in Paris. Racine has lectured extensively in the area of international relations at Eastern colleges and universities and to civic clubs.

Springfield Chapter holds regular meetings on the third Wednesday of each month. Area secretaries interested in becoming affiliated with the Chapter are invited to contact Mrs. Louise Hannifin at Mass. Mutual Life Insurance Company, 1295 State Street, Springfield.

Reservations for the January meeting should be made with Vice President Mary E. Allard at Albert Steiger Company before Friday, January 11.

Kerr Named to Deans' List

Peter Kerr, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Kerr of 662 North West Street, has attained the deans' list at Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta, Georgia.

Peter is a 1979 graduate of Agawam High School and a member of Georgia Tech's freshman class.

Baptist Church To Hold Ham And Bean Supper

The Mr. and Mrs. Club of the Agawam Baptist Church will sponsor a family style ham and bean supper on Saturday, January 19. Serving times will be 5 and 6:15 p.m.

The menu will consist of baked ham, home-baked beans, potato salad, cole slaw, rolls, assorted homemade pies, coffee, tea or milk.

Tickets are \$3.50 for adults and \$1.00 for children under 10. Reservations may be made by calling 786-8579 or 786-7410.

Polish Club To Sponser Language Class

The Polish Culture Committee of the Polish American Club will be sponsoring a free Polish language class beginning February 6.

Committee chairman Edward L. Blaszk said today that Charles Tomaszewski, a teacher in the Chicopee school system, will conduct the course. Tomaszewski has traveled to Poland to study language and its teaching methods.

The course is open to all club members and to all town residents. Books will be made available. Slides of Poland also will be presented during the course.

Blaszk is assisted on the committee by Julie Kozikowski, Elaine Duga, Todd Cieborter and Mrs. Adamski.

For further information call Polish American Club president, William Sliech or Auxiliary president Elaine Duga at 786-3050.

Varsity Cheerleaders To Host Competition

Members of the Agawam High School varsity cheerleading squad are scheduled to host the second annual varsity cheerleader tournament on Saturday, January 26 at 6 p.m.

Seventeen schools from around the state will compete in the tournament. Tickets are \$1.50 for adults and \$.75 for children under 12. Refreshments will be served at the intermission. The doors to the high school gym will open at 4:30 p.m.

Cheerleader advisor Donna Bodurtha said all proceeds will help send the Brownie cheerleaders to a cheerleading camp this summer.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

January 19th
Ham and Bean Supper
Agawam Baptist Church
5 & 6:15 p.m.

January 26th
Cheerleader Tournament
Agawam High School
4:30 p.m.

January 12th
Pomona Grange Meeting
Westfield Grange Home
South Maple Street
8 p.m.

January 12th
Armchair Racing
And Buffet
Sponsored By
Aga. Hockey Assoc.
Polish Amer. Club
6:30 p.m.

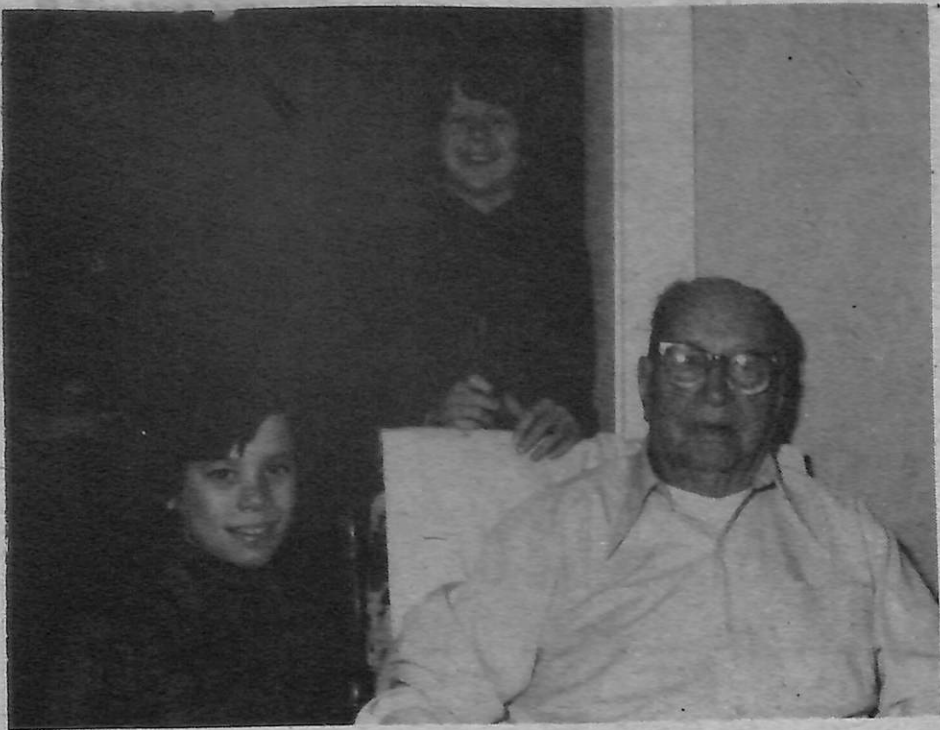
January 13th
Aga. Jr. Women/Rotary
Bowl-Off
To Benefit Fuel Fund
Agawam Bowl
Walnut St. Ext.
4-6 p.m.

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SATURDAY. 9 30 A.M. - 5 00 P.M.



Adolph Gallano recently celebrated his 90th birthday. He is shown in the picture above with his two great-grandsons, Jonathan and Jeremy Lemme.

Mr. Gallano is the father of Andrew Gallano, Community advocate for the State Department of Elder Affairs and Town Treasurer David Gallano. He has two daughters, Virginia of Seattle, Washington, and Eva of Reno, Nevada; three grandsons and a granddaughter.

Pomona Grange Plans Meeting

Pioneer Valley Pomona Grange will meet in the Westfield Grange Home, South Maple Street, on Saturday, January 12 at 8 o'clock.

In addition to the regular business meeting, Martin D. Moynihan, who has had many years of experience with insurance, will speak on Insuring Your Health and answer questions on this puzzling topic.

Mrs. Donna Herman, Chairman of the Education Committee, will furnish music and fun with her family. She will also arrange for our donation to the State Grange Educational Aid Fund, which loans money at 2% interest to worthy patron for educational pursuits. In addition, for the academic year beginning September, 1980, forty-five scholarships of \$400 each are available from this fund.

Hampshire County Pomona Grange members have been invited. Refreshments will be served by Westfield Grange.

Calligraphy Classes Offered To Adults

Registrations are now being taken at the Home Information Center, 20 Baldwin Street, East Longmeadow for winter classes. Classes are open to all adults and teenagers of Hampden County.

The following classes are being offered:

Calligraphy, stuffed doll or bunny, art of wicker work, chenille bump novelties, quilting, tole painting, sewing, sewing for visually handicapped, tailoring, knitting, crocheting, advanced crochet, and knit and crochet workshop. Also, crewel embroidery, advanced crewel embroidery, rug hooking, shirret rugs, vestamoyd rugs, vestamoyd workshop, and a host of other subjects.

Many samples of the work that will be done in these classes are on display at the Center. Registrations must be made in advance by calling 525-3119 or visiting the Center from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday thru Friday.

Whole Grain Leaflet Offered

The Hampden County Extension Service is offering a new series of leaflets on the use of whole grains. The Nutrition and Health Promotion Committee of the Cooperative Extension Service has developed this set, which is free of charge, to help people become more familiar with a variety of grains and to savor their interesting flavors.

Each leaflet contains background information about the grain, the nutritive value, how to select and store the grain and recipes for family use. The leaflets include barley, buckwheat, bulgar, corn meal, millet, oats, rice, rye and wheat.

For your set write or call Hampden County Extension, 1499 Memorial Avenue, West Springfield, Mass. 01089, telephone 736-7204.



Heidi Stevenson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. 'Steve' Stevenson of Agawam, is the American Heart Association's 'Heart Princess' for Western Massachusetts. photo by Jack Devine



Singles Unlimited To Host Dance

Singles Unlimited will hold a dance at the Harley (formerly the Hospitality Inn), Route 5, Enfield, Connecticut on Friday, January 18th from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Dancing will be to the music of the Wispering Sands.

"Sky Gazing" Offered At Laughing Brook

Massachusetts Audubon Society's Laughing Brook Education Center in Hampden is sponsoring an evening look at the Winter Sky on Friday, January 18 at 7:30 p.m. The Winter Sky program is a field introduction to the stars, constellations and planets of the winter season.

Ron Woodland, a Montague-based amateur sky watcher, is the host. His previous "star parties" and astronomy programs have introduced many Connecticut Valley residents to the beauty and intricacy of the sky.

This program will combine an indoor orientation with actual outdoor observations. A special feature of the evening sky in winter is the extreme brightness of constellations with the added attraction of the planets Jupiter, Saturn and Mars.

The Winter Sky is open to the public and a fee is charged. Reservations are necessary and a cloud date is set for Saturday, January 19. For more information, call Laughing Brook at 566-3571.

Womens Club To Host Pot Luck Supper

The Agawam Catholic Women's Club's next meeting will be held at St. John's Parish Center on Main Street in Agawam on Monday, January 21. A pot-luck supper will start at 6:30 p.m. followed by a Penny Auction.

The chairpersons are the officers and executive board members. They are as follows: President, Mrs. Philip J. DeForge; 1st Vice President, Mrs. Albert J. Taupier; 2nd Vice President, Mrs. James E. Doyle; Secretary, Mrs. Stephen Jacapraro; Treasurer, Mrs. Richard E. Gingras; Assistant Treasurer, Mrs. Stanley Ciempa; and the directors, Mrs. James A. Consolini, Mrs. Richard Conway, and Mrs. Thomas J. McGovern.

If any member has not been contacted by January 14, please call Mrs. Philip DeForge at 789-0286.

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SPORTS

Agawam Wrestlers Win Over East Longmeadow

by Jim Jenks

The Agawam grapplers started the new decade off right with a big win over the East Longmeadow Spartans. With the win, the Brownies fashioned a 3-2 record. "It was a good win for us," Coach Tomkiel commented, "they beat Frontier, which we lost to before the holidays. It was a big confidence builder for the team."

Junior, Steve Tetreault, continued his assault on an undefeated season beating his opponent in the one hundred pound weight class by a 7-6 decision. Tetreault has build himself a perfect five win and no loss record as well as being leading point man on the team.

A pin at 2:15 of the match boosted Steve Sgueglia's (107) record to 2-0 in only his second match of the year, while Bob Schwein (121) upped his undefeated string to three matches with a third round pin. Up to this point Schwein had a 2-0 record and had only been on the mat eight seconds, so this was Bob's first real match of the season in which he responded well.

Captains, Steve Fields (128) and Paul Zerbiniopolous (134) both showed their leadership by winning their respective matches. Fields won on a second round pin, while "Zerb" won a 7-0 decision giving Agawam a commanding 24-3 lead.

Other winners boosting Agawam's cause were Jim Peiffer (147) and Tony Kryzkowski (157); the latter by a convincing pin. The totals came with Agawam winning 33-21.

The win gives Agawam an additional advantage when Westfield comes to town on Wednesday night. With the help of the home town fans it should be quite an evening.

Basketball Moms Say Thanks

The Agawam High Basketball Moms wish to extend their sincerest thanks to all those who contributed to the programs which are sold at each home game.



Junior Dave Lyne goes in for an easy bucket during a lopsided victory by the Brownies last week over East Longmeadow. Agawam stands 2-0 in the Valley Wheel.

Agawam Hockey Association Highlights

12-14A, Drewnowski Construction - Coaches Al Sapelli and Jeff Martini

Agawam Hockey Association's 12-14 A Drewnowski Construction team shut out Holyoke 7-0. This was the third shutout for goalie Dave Liptak.

Two team members, Mike Lazazzera and Bob Eggleston each made a "hat trick" - three goals, and Frank Rondoletto put in the other one. Rondoletto and Lazazzera each had two assists, and Rick Cassessi and Mike Chagnon each had one.

Although the game was dominated by the strong first line, the shutout could not have happened without the fine plays of Dean Liptak, Jay Passerini, Kevin Mercadante, Erik Blanchard and Peter Borello.

10-12C - Simon Container - Coaches Larry Bouchard and Rich Hill

Agawam's Simon Container Machinery hockey team made it four straight by defeating the Springfield Elks No. 61 by a score of 3-1. Goals by Captain Dave Keeney, Larry Bouchard and Bob Coelln, were the determining factors in the win. The first goal came on a beautiful pass from Chris Shea to Dave Keeney. Keeney tucked the puck in between the pads of the Elks goalie. The score was 1-0 after the first period of play.

In the second period, Larry Bouchard took a pass from Darrin Hill at the point and slipped the puck into the left side of the net. At the end of the second period, the score was 2-0.

In the third period, Springfield spoiled Agawam's goalie Jeff Guevin's chance for his second shutout of the season when they made it 2-1. Minutes later, the puck was shot into the Elks' end when Dave Veilleux passed to center Bouchard. Bouchard shot, the puck roled along the crease, and was tapped in by Bob Coelln.

Agawam's defense, consisting of Darrin Hill, John Kovalsky, Fran Conway and Bob Messick did a spectacular job. On Saturday, Simon Container will battle the top two teams in the league for first place in the 10-12C division.

In a previous game, Agawam defeated Southwick 4-3 with Lee Christanopolous scoring his first A.H.A. goal, while Larry Bouchard, Dave Keeney, and Bob Coelln rounded out the scoring. Coach Larry Bouchard and Assistant Coach Rich Hill believe that if the team continues to improve, they will be solid contenders for the championship.

8-10D - V.F.W. Post 1632 - In a hard fought battle, the 8-10D V.F.W. Post 1632 team went down to defeat at the hands of the Longmeadow team, 3-0. The entire team played an excellent game, holding their opponents to one goal with four minutes to play in the final period. Strong goal tending by Mark Sohay helped to keep the team in the entire game.

Playing one of their best games of the season, the team is still searching for its first victory of the regular season.

Outstanding play from wings Mike Keeney, Chris Shuman, Craig Lapierre and Derek Fgan complemented the hard working centering of Joey DelBuono, Mike Shea and Jimmy Farrell.

The defensive squads helped to keep the puck in their opponents zone for much of the game. Defensive team mates Steve Silva and Jason Guevin with Bobby Carter and Shawn Grealis played one of their soundest games.

Hockey Association Presents Arm Chair Racing

The Agawam Hockey Association will hold an evening of "Armchair Racing" and buffet dinner on Saturday evening, January 12 beginning at 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$3.75 per person, and a limited number will be available at the door. Valenti's Catering will serve the buffet dinner at 7 p.m., and "Armchair Racing" (horse racing on film) will begin at 8.

The event will be held at the Polish American Club, Southwick Street, Feeding Hills.

Further information may be obtained by calling any member of the hockey association.

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Buffet Served at 7 PM

Tickets Available at the Door or from
any Hockey Association Member

Door Prizes

Door Prizes

Sportsman Corner

by Bill Chiba



It is a reality...Mass. will have its first turkey season this spring. The season will consist of two weeks in Franklin and Berkshire counties only. It will begin the first Monday in May and conclude on the second Saturday following. This period was selected as the time when most hens are nesting and therefore unavailable but the gobbling gobblers are still available. The gobbling is most intense during the morning hours and drops off during the forenoon. Hunting after that time is likely to be unproductive. For this reason, and as protection for hens which leave their nests to feed during the afternoon, hunting is limited to the period from one half hour before sunrise to 11 a.m.

Hunting is by permit only and limited to only 1250 permits. Procedures for drawing the permits have not been worked out yet. We will notify you in plenty of time before the season.

Shotguns no longer than 10 gauge using shot sizes from number 2 to number 6 or bows of at least 40 pounds at 28" draw with arrows that have well sharpened steel broadhead blades not less than 7/8" width and not greater than 1 1/2" may only be used.

Hunters are limited to one bearded turkey which must be presented whole at an official checking station for tagging within 24 of the taking.

Figures for the deer killed during the 3 seasons is finally available from the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife. The bow season produced 191; the regular gun season, 2639; and the muzzleloaders bagged 91 deer for a grand total of 2923. If we take in the deer that were shot and not turned into a checking station, Jim McDonough would have his three thousand figure. The grand total included 2 bucks harvested by paraplegic hunters.

If you are in the process of selecting your vacation time, the following season dates will help you: bow season in Mass. and will open November 3rd, the gun season will commence December 1st. Bow season in Connecticut will start October 1st this year and Vermont's opens the second Saturday in October. The gun season in Vermont this year is opening later so that the residents will have Thanksgiving Day. November 15th is "D" Day.

Connecticut Status

Archers reported 93 deer taken up to the late season a few more will be added to the score if past years performance is the trend. Muzzle loaders scored very well with 290 harvested, an increase over last year by 60 deer. The shotgun season showed a decrease in harvest compared to last year. Only 568 deer, 290 males and 278 females, were taken as compared to 587 last year. Private land produced 226 deer and 342 came from state land - a 10 percent increase on state land from last year. The heaviest deer for this season was a 185 pound, 8 point buck from Housatonic State Forest.

Vermont's turkey season in 1979 was the second highest in the five years it has been held.

744 wild turkeys went into hunters' game bags. The Division issued 11,110 permits. The record year was 1977 when 1,043 birds were taken.

There were 171 of 573 successful hunters fortunate enough to take two birds. Although the number of permits was not limited, residents held 78.4 percent of the permits and took 78 percent of the birds.

Only 25 percent of the fall season turkeys were taken by calling, but 90 percent of the spring gobblers were fooled by calling.

Vermont's 1980 spring "gobbler" season (for bearded turkeys only) will be held May 3 through 18.

Little League Sign-ups

The sign-ups for Little League baseball will be held at the Captain Charles Leonard House, Main Street, on Wednesday, January 16.

The Agawam Little League is affiliated with the National Little League, Williamsport, Pa. All games and practices are held at the Little League field and Phelps School on School Street. Every child must play, and the season ends the first week in July, with the exception of the All-Star Players.

Players are divided up into the following age groups: 5-6 instructional; 7-9 Minor Division; 10-12 Major Division; and 13-15, Senior Division. Registration fees are \$5.00 for the Instructional and Minor, and \$6.50 for the Major and Senior Divisions.

There must be an adult present to sign-up their child. Coaches and assistants are needed to make 1980 a very successful year.



Brownie pucksters thwarted at Terriers, net. Advertiser/News photo by Jack Devine

Brownies Split With Holyoke, West Side

by Jim Jenks

The Brownie pucksters opened their new year with two games in three days. The first of those the Agawam team would like to forget. After a long 15 day layoff, the Chicopee Pacers dumped the Brownies 11-7. "We had to play too much in our own end," Coach Sapelli commented, "all we did was throw the puck away so they could come right back at us." One highlight of the Agawam play was the line of Alan Hardina, Gary Malanson and John Coutre. Coming off a six point game before Christmas, Hardina added five more to his running total while Malanson and Coutre added four and two respectively.

The big game of the week though belonged to Agawam. The Brownies who stood at 2-2 faced an undefeated West Springfield club looking for their fifth win in as many games. The underdog Brownies did everything right pulling out a 7-4 upset of the Terriers. "Mr. Do-It-All," Alan Hardina did it again this time adding two goals and two assists. It wouldn't be right though if Malanson wasn't right behind him, and indeed he was, adding a goal of his own and two assists. "It was a big game for us, not because we beat West Side, but because we won, and got our record over .500," said Malanson.

Sapelli commented along the same lines saying, "it was a confidence builder for this team. Every game we play from here on in is going to be very competitive. No one team is going to be blown out."

When asked about Alan Hardina's performance this year, Sapelli responded, "He is doing it with a team, especially Gary Malanson. Hardina plays a different style of game controlling the puck while Malanson plays an aggressive game digging the pucks out of the corners."

This explains why on almost all of Hardina's nine goals, Malanson has assists. "We've been playing together since our 12-14 league on the same line," Malanson explained. "Even before Coach Sapelli came along we knew each others' play." Last year Hardina and Malanson teamed up with Jim Dow, now at the University of Massachusetts, until Alan was hurt early in the season. The big centerman fought back to make a respectable season of it and the rest shows today.

Hardina stands now as leading scorer with nine goals and nine assists, with 15 of those 18 points coming in the last three games. Malanson is next with four goals and eight assists. The small number of goals is deceiving. "Gary started slow," points out Sapelli. "But in the last couple of games he has been super. Gary is not only an offensive threat but a defensive one also. He forechecks, he back checks and then he scores points." Linemate John Coutre does not have the numbers of his fellow mates but Malanson is quick to point out "he hasn't played with us long enough. John is learning fast what he can do, but most of all what he can do with us."

Within the span of two weeks the Agawam skaters will be faced with a strong Classical squad followed by Cathedral (who beat Agawam on opening night) and those same West Springfield High School Terriers. "If we play to potential there is a good chance we can beat Cathedral," states Malanson, "we weren't ready for them last time, but this time we will be." It should make for a great rematch and some exciting hockey. So mark that down on the calendar-January 15th at 8:30 p.m. in the Eastern States Coliseum.

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A.A. Basketball



West Springfield Fish and Game, Girls 11-15: Front Row; Kathy Landry, Diane Goodman, Karen Spaulding, Kerry Smith. Back Row; Leslie Fogg, Coach Colleen Dalton, Kathy McLean, Donna Fydenkevez, Colleen Ferry and Coach Ed Landry.



E-Con-O-Sales of the Girls 11-15: Front Row; [left to right] Dana Venturini, Ann Marmo, Mary Beth Roberts, Deanne Duclos, Heather Dubian. Back Row; Michele Quaglini, Mary Barnes, Michelle Duclos, Jennifer O'Brien and head coach Lynda Kunasek.



McCarthy Tile, Boys 10-12: Front Row; Dave DeMatteo, Caddy Simpson, Tony Kunasek, Mike Daponde and Jeff Jakabowski. Back Row; Mike Marmo, Bill Lyne, Coach Rich "Skinhead" Mahoney, Brian Dupuis and Allan Stoutnar.



Agawam Lions Club, Boys 10-12: Front Row; Ed Kopyscinski, Mike Jemiolo, Jay Cravin, David Robinson, Dennis Slicch. Back Row; Michael Mezzetti, Scott Cofer, Keith Josephson, and Stephen Allen. Coaches Mike Riley [tall] and Gary DeSimone [small].



Feeding Hills Hardware, Boys 10-12: Front Row; Ray LeClair, Scott Magnason, Denfon Washington, Rick Costa, Fred Fruwirth. Back Row; Ed Grimaldi, Coach Kevin Barnes, Mike Govoni, Jim Wright, Coach Ken Barnes and Brian Stepanik.



Westbank, Boys 10-12: Front Row; John Sandlin, Peter Saracino, Robert Dupre, David Veilleux. Back Row; Jim Helton, Coach Ed Connor, Derek Kinney, Rocky Bush, Kevin Connor, Coach Bob Hersey and Richard LaValley.

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American Heart Association Laurel Wreath Awards



Former Pro Football star Joe Scibelli (right) of Springfield and rising young baseball star Mike Riley (left) of Agawam, join with Ron Abdo (2nd from left) and George Abdo of Big Boy Restaurants to promote the Laurel Wreath Sports Awards voting. Ballots may be cast for a 10 cent donation at local Abdo's Big Boy Restaurants until the end of January. Proceeds will benefit the Western Massachusetts Division, American Heart Association. photo by Jack Devi.

Two organizations vitally interested in sports, exercise and physical fitness--the American Heart Association and Big Boy Restaurants of America--have joined together to present the annual Laurel Wreath Awards.

This is a unique program which not only allows the public to select America's top athletes of 1979, but aids in the fight against the nation's leading killer, Heart Disease.

The 1,100 Big Boy Restaurants nationwide, including Abdo's Big Boy Restaurants in Enfield, Conn.; Springfield, Mass.; Fairview, Mass.; West Springfield, Mass.; and Westfield, Mass., have become public voting locations for the program during January.

Funds derived from the balloting, in which a ten-cent donation is collected with each public vote, are earmarked for the American Heart Association.

In addition to the ballots, which list the names of five athletes in four categories--amateur and professional, both male and female--free specially-prepared American Heart Association literature describing the benefits of exercise and physical fitness as a deterrent against heart disease is available.

According to the American Heart Association, most doctors agree that regular exercise, suited to individual needs and with proper guidance, is particularly good for the heart.

Regular exercise improves blood circulation throughout the body; helps an individual handle stress; is good for psychological well-being; can help control weight, in conjunction with a proper diet; and may help the body make the best use of fats and sugars.

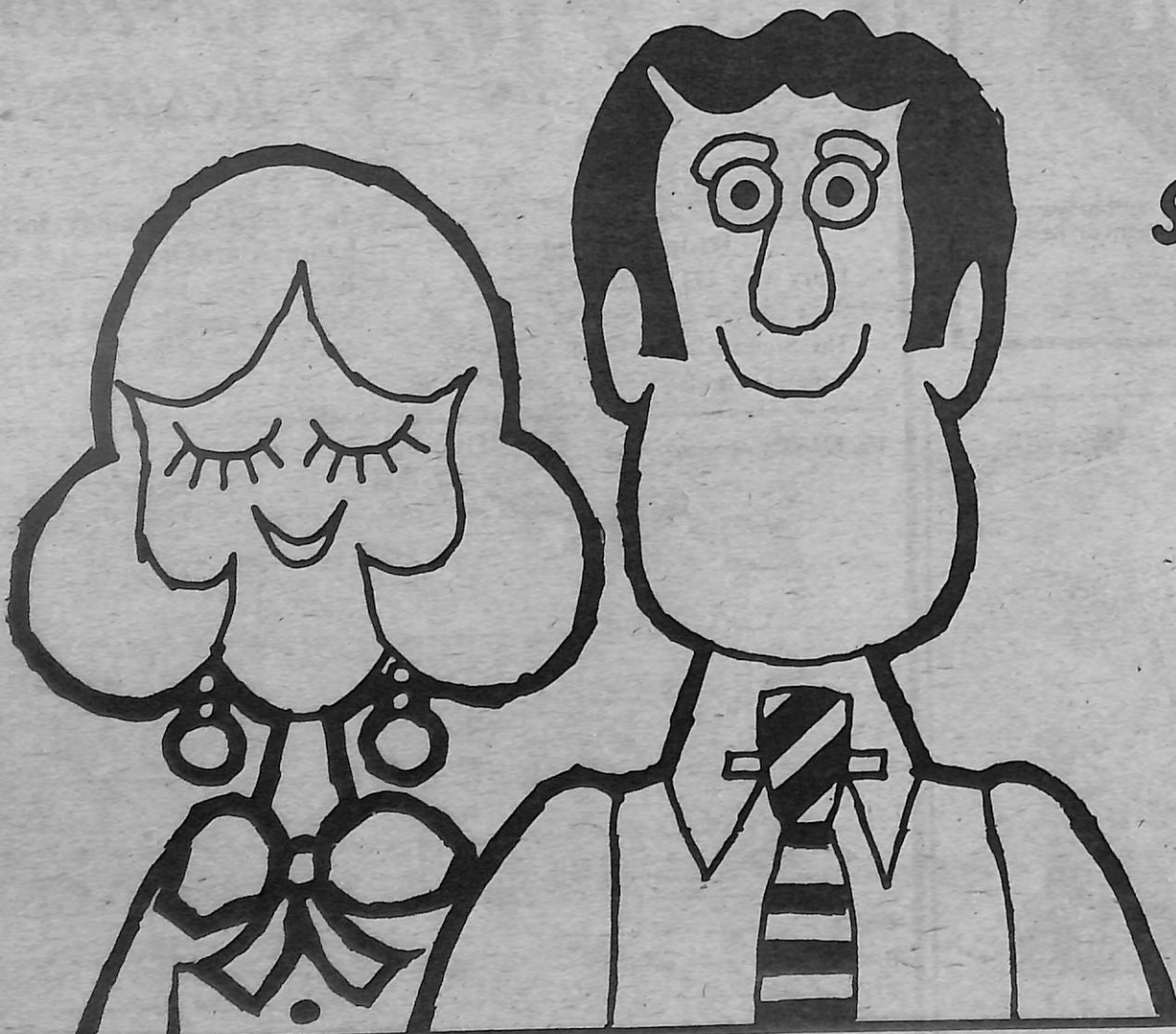
The American Heart Association warns, however, that exercise and physical fitness alone will not prevent or cure heart disease, which is responsible for one of every two deaths in America. The risk of having a heart attack is increased by high blood pressure, a high cholesterol level and cigarette smoking, among other factors.

But regular exercise is considered one important influence in reducing that risk.

"By voting in the Laurel Wreath Awards, area residents cannot only help select the country's top athletes of 1979, but they can help the American Heart Association in its battle against cardiovascular disease," said Mr. Len Kantor of Abdo's Main Office.

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